

Summary  
**Clark County Conservation of Public Land  
and Natural Resources Act of 2002**  
S. 2612

Introduced in the Senate on June 11, 2002 by Senators Reid and S. Ensign (Nevada)

**PURPOSE:**

To establish wilderness areas, promote conservation, improve public land, and provide for high quality development in Clark County, Nevada, and for other purposes.

**SHORT SUMMARY BY TITLE:**

- Title I      Authorizes the BLM to exchange a specific tract of approximately 1,000 acres of public land in the Las Vegas Valley for 1,087 acres of land within the boundary of the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area (RRCNCA) owned by the Howard Hughes Corporation. The RRCNCA boundary is adjusted to include all of the acquired parcels.
- Title II      Designates 20 areas (totaling 443,919 acres) as wilderness; releases all or part of 15 wilderness study areas (totaling 183,375 acres) from further consideration for designation; and, directs the Secretary to issue two right of way grants through existing wilderness study areas.
- Title III     Transfers administrative jurisdiction of approximately 49,817 acres of public land to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service for inclusion in the Desert National Wildlife Range, and 10 acres of public land to the National Park Service for inclusion in the Lake Mead National Recreation Area. The area transferred to the USFWS (consisting of three wilderness study areas totaling 49,817 acres) is released from further consideration for wilderness designation. The total area released from further consideration for wilderness designation under this Bill is 233,192 acres.
- Title IV     Amends the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act to expand the boundary of the disposal area to include roughly 22,900\* additional acres of public land; allows additional regional government entities to receive funding for the development of parks, trails and natural areas; and, directs that not less than 25 percent of funds in the Special Account be allocated to local governments in Clark County for the development of parks, trails and natural areas.

Title V Directs the Secretary to convey roughly 14,000\* acres of public land to Clark County for the purpose of protecting the noise zones associated with the proposed airport in the Ivanpah Valley. Allocates any revenue derived from the sale or lease of these lands. Directs the Secretary to establish a 2,640-foot wide corridor between the Las Vegas valley and the proposed Ivanpah Airport for the placement of utilities and for transportation. The land in the corridor and the land conveyed are withdrawn from mineral entry under the mining laws and from operation under the mineral leasing and geothermal leasing laws.

This title also withdraws the Federal land in an area of critical environmental concern that is designated for segregation and withdrawal under the 1998 Las Vegas Resource Management Plan from the operation of the mining laws in accordance with that plan. The Las Vegas RMP established 20 ACECs totaling just over 1 million acres.

Title VI Establishes the Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area (approximately 47,000 acres) to be managed by the BLM. Requires a management plan be developed within three years. Calls for the sale of a 500-acre tract of land adjacent to the new NCA. Allocates the revenue derived from the sale as follows: 5% to the State of Nevada; 8% for a litter campaign; and the balance for the Slone National Conservation Area.

Title VII Directs the Secretary to convey specific parcels of land to:

- 1) The City of Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department for a shooting range (approximately 176\* acres).
- 2) The City Of Henderson for a college campus (approximately 511\* acres), an economic development zone (approximately 688\* acres), and a nature park (approximately 2,442\* acres).
- 3) The City of Las Vegas for affordable housing (approximately 30\* acres).
- 4) Clark County (the Sunrise Landfill—approximately 917\* acres) for unrestricted use.

This title authorizes the Clark County to convey a parcel of land acquired under the SNPLMA to the University of Nevada at Las Vegas Research Foundation for the development of a technology research center. It also directs the relocation of a power-line corridor in Clark and Lincoln Counties.

\*The actual acreage is not included in the Bill, only reference to a tract depicted on a map. This figure was derived by estimating the acreage from the maps referenced in the Bill. It should be considered rough estimate.